

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1(currently amended): A communication system for advising an intended called party recipient of the availability of the a calling party sender for return messages, said system comprising:

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a data terminal associated with each of said calling and called parties,
a message routing module for interconnecting said calling and called parties; and
a presence processor connected to said data terminal of said calling and called parties and
obtaining from a calling party descriptive information as to the and availability status
information of a said calling party,
said message routing module communicating with said presence processor in
response to said calling party not completing a call to said called party and said presence
processor in response thereto forwarding to the data terminal of said called party said
descriptive information and said availability status information with respect to of said calling
party.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The communication system in accordance with claim 1,
wherein said presence processor includes circuitry for communicating with said data
terminals and said each message routing module, a datastore for storing status information, and
status processor.

Claim 3 (original): The communication system in accordance with claim 1 wherein said
communication system is a telephone system.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The communication system in accordance with claim 3,
wherein said each message routing module is a call agent.

Claim 5 (original): The communication system in accordance with claim 4, wherein
communications between said call agent, said presence processor, and said calling and called
parties, including said data terminals, are through a packet-based communication network.

Claim 6 (original): The communication system in accordance with claim 5, further including
a residential gateway between each of said calling and called parties and said packet-based
communication network.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The communication system in accordance with claim 3,
wherein said each message routing module is a telephone switch and said presence processor is
a service control point.

Claim 8 (original): The communication system in accordance with claim 6, further including
a packet based network connecting said service control point to said data terminals of said
calling and called parties.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The communication system in accordance with claim 1,
wherein said data terminal includes a scheduling calendar, said presence processor obtaining
said availability status information for from said scheduling calendar.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The communication system in accordance with claim 1,
wherein said availability status information indicates the calling party's availability for return
communication from the called party.

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Claim 11 (currently amended): The communication system in accordance with claim 1,
wherein said presence processor is operative to dynamically update said availability status
information.